

NON-PERMANENT RESIDENTS IN ALBERTA

SUMMARY

Non-permanent residents are comprised of non-Canadians who have claimed refugee status or who hold a work or study permit, and the dependents who reside with them. Alberta has experienced a large inflow of net non-permanent residents (NPRs) in 2008 (23,860), compared to previous years. Higher numbers of foreign workers, in response to labor shortages, contributed to the increase of non-permanent residents in 2008. According to the 2006 Census, the majority of Alberta's non-permanent residents (36.2%) came from Asia (China and Philipppians) and the majority of foreign workers and students were living in major urban centers. A large proportion of NPRs (32.2%) are employed in the Sales and Service sector, when compared to those employed in the Trade and related occupations sector (9.2%).

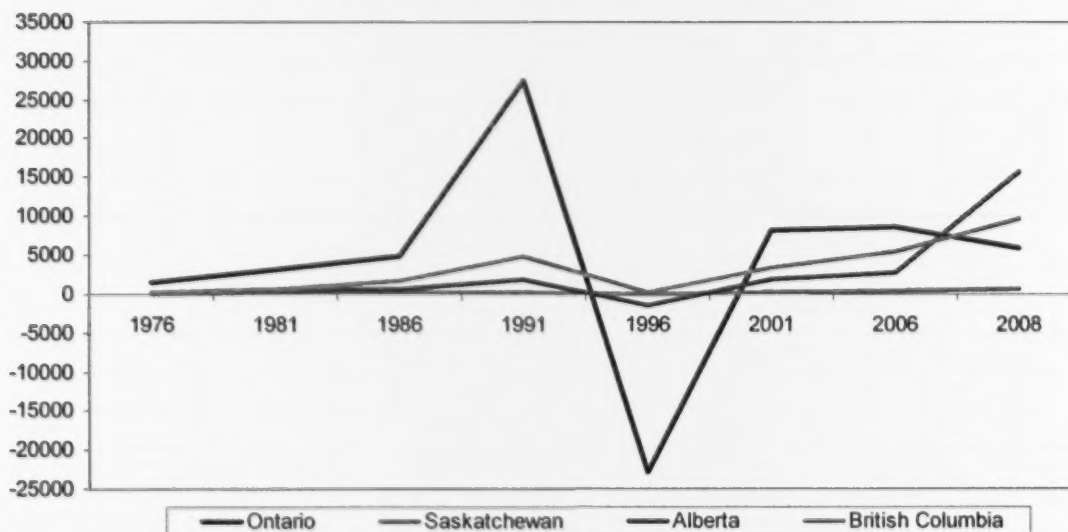
HISTORICAL CONTEXT

As a reflection of the growth in the economy, coupled with the need for skilled labour, Alberta has recently experienced an increase in non-permanent residents (NPRs) moving to the province from all over the world. As indicated in Figure 1, the most drastic increase in net NPRs living in Alberta has occurred over the last 3 years (2006-2008). In 2006, there were approximately 7,500 net NPRs, while in 2008, there were approximately 23,800 net NPRs in Alberta.

According to Statistics Canada, there were 17,280 and 27,095 total NPRs living in Alberta in 2001 and 2006, respectively. This represents an increase of approximately 9,800 (56.8%) total NPRs over a 5 year time period.

When compared to other Western provinces, historically, British Columbia has followed similar patterns of net NPRs as Alberta. Saskatchewan has experienced steady small increases in net flow of NPRs.

Figure 1: 5-Year Average of Net Non-Permanent Residents



Source: Statistics Canada

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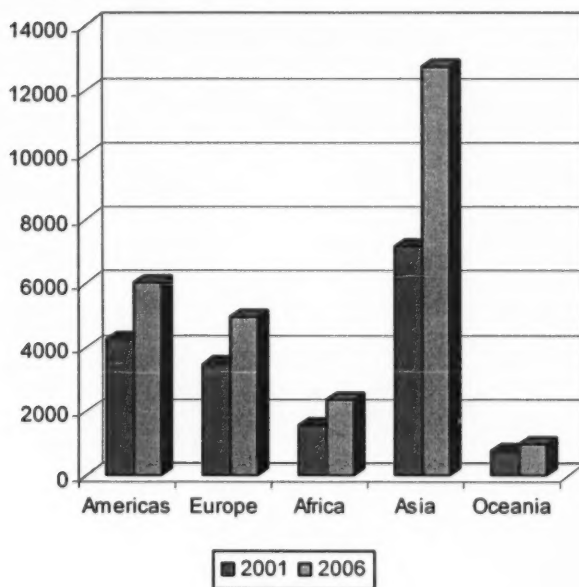
WHERE DO THEY COME FROM...

Non-permanent residents in Alberta have come from various parts of the world, including Asia (e.g., Middle East, China, Philippians, and India), the Americas (e.g., USA, South America), and Europe (e.g., Poland, England). In 2001, the majority of NPRs moving to Alberta were from Asia (41.3%) and the Americas (24.7%).

As seen in Figure 2, in 2006, 47.1% of the total NPRs came from Asia; the majority of which came from Eastern Asia, such as China (approx. 6,000), and South-East Asia, such as the Philippians (approx. 3,600). In the same year, 22.3% of NPRs came from the Americas; the majority of which were coming from the USA (approx. 3,500).

Asia and the Americas continue to be the top two countries of origin for NPRs in Alberta, even though the Americas contributed less to the total number of NPRs in 2006 when compared to 2001.

Figure 2:
Origins of Alberta Non-Permanent Residents

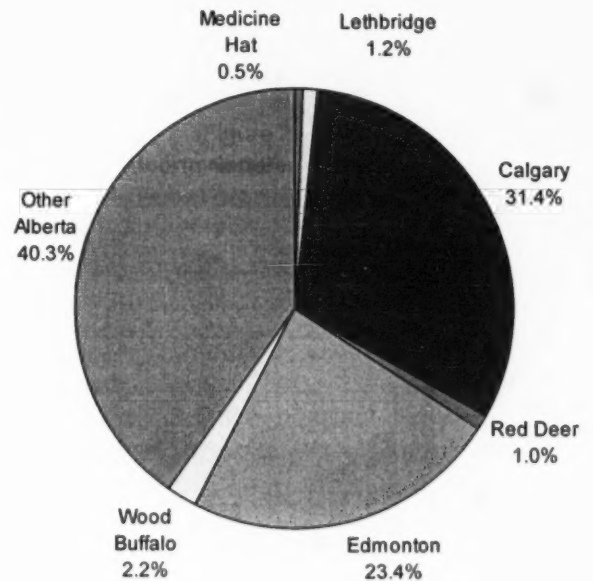


Source: Statistics Canada

...WHERE ARE THEY GOING...

Total foreign workers and students (i.e., only those NPRs with work or study permits) are found across various urban centers in Alberta. Table 1 indicates the distribution of foreign students and workers across Alberta and over the past 5 years. In 2008, Calgary, Edmonton and Wood Buffalo were the top three destinations for foreign workers (see figure 3), with more than half of the foreign workers were destined for those municipalities. Calgary and Edmonton remained the top two destinations for foreign students in 2008; 81.1% of the foreign students were in one of these two major centers.

Figure 3:
Destinations of Foreign Workers and Students in 2008



Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Table 1: Total Entries of Foreign Workers and Students to Alberta 2004-2008*

		2004		2005		2006		2007		2008	
		%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Medicine Hat	Workers	0.8%	118	1.0%	182	0.6%	151	0.4%	145	0.5%	209
	Students	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-
Lethbridge	Workers	0.5%	77	0.6%	101	0.9%	215	0.9%	310	0.8%	382
	Students	1.6%	241	1.1%	194	0.8%	182	0.5%	166	0.3%	147
Calgary	Workers	25.6%	3,928	25.9%	4,603	25.5%	6,114	25.4%	8,808	25.6%	11,576
	Students	14.5%	2,219	13.0%	2,310	10.7%	2,556	6.8%	2,369	5.9%	2,662
Red Deer	Workers	1.0%	156	1.7%	310	0.9%	210	1.3%	458	1.0%	437
	Students	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-
Edmonton	Workers	13.9%	2,138	12.1%	2,147	12.6%	3,026	17.7%	6,145	18.3%	8,301
	Students	10.2%	1,562	9.2%	1,629	7.0%	1,668	5.5%	1,904	5.1%	2,297
Wood Buffalo	Workers	1.1%	168	1.9%	337	2.2%	518	1.7%	590	2.2%	1,008
	Students	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-
Other Alberta	Workers	26.0%	3,987	28.3%	5,028	34.8%	8,331	37.4%	12,983	38.1%	17,264
	Students	4.9%	751	5.1%	910	4.1%	987	2.5%	854	2.2%	1,011
All Alberta	Workers	68.9%	10,572	71.6%	12,708	77.5%	18,565	84.8%	29,439	86.5%	39,177
	Students	31.1%	4,773	28.4%	5,043	22.5%	5,393	15.2%	5,293	13.5%	6,117
	Total	100.0%	15,345	100.0%	17,751	100.0%	23,958	100.0%	34,732	100.0%	45,294

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, RDM 4th Quarter 2008

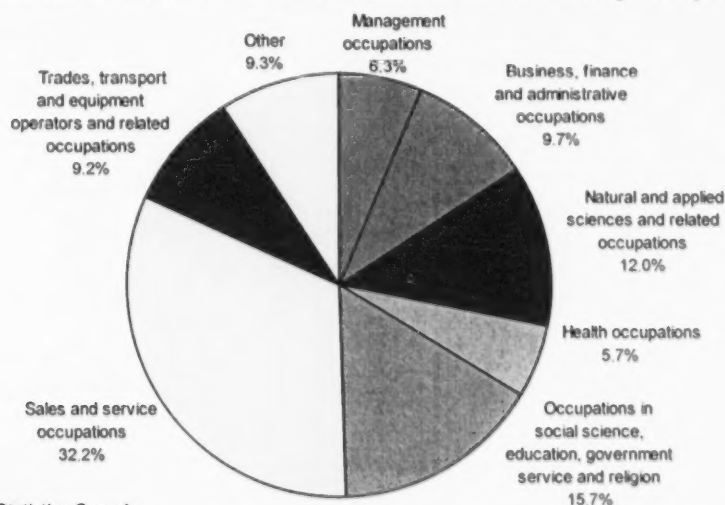
* "Other Alberta" may indicate different places of destination for foreign students versus foreign workers

...AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

Non-permanent residents are employed in various sectors of the economy (see Figure 4). In 2006, 32.2% of NPRs ages 15 and over in Alberta worked in the sales and

service industry. Another 15.7% and 12.0% were employed in the Education, government, and social sciences sector and Applied sciences sector, respectively.

Figure 4: Total Non-Permanent Residents 15 Years and Over by Occupation



Source: Statistics Canada